

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Sadanand V. Deshpande, et al.

Examiner: Unassigned

Serial No: To be assigned

Art Unit: Unassigned

Filed: Herewith

Docket: FIS920030078US2 (16422A)

For: STI STRESS MODIFICATION BY
NITROGEN PLASMA TREATMENT FOR
IMPROVING PERFORMANCE IN SMALL
WIDTH DEVICES

Dated: January 5, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the ten (10) references, which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

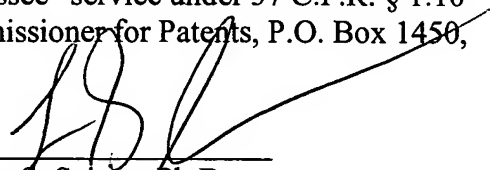
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Dated: January 5, 2004

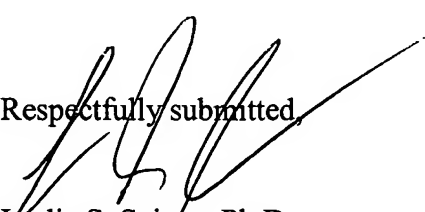


Leslie S. Szivos, Ph.D.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (d), copies of the references listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 are not provided since they were previously made record of in the parent application Serial No. 10/250,047 filed on May 30, 2003. Consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement is respectfully requested, since the information provided herewith may be material to the examination of the present application as defined under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been performed or that no other art than that identified herein exists.

The instant Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted concurrent with the filing of the present application. Therefore, this filing is made under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(1). An Information Disclosure Statement filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(1) requires neither certification nor fee.

Respectfully submitted,


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| Form PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (REV. 7-80) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary) | | | | Atty. Docket No. FIS920030078US2 (16422A) | | Serial No. To be assigned | |
| | | | | Applicant Sadanand V. Deshpande, et al. | | | |
| | | | | Filing Date Herewith | | Group Unassigned | |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|--|-------------------|------------|------------------|-------|----------|---------------------------------|
| EXAMINER INITIAL* | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE (if appropriate) |
| | | 5,780,346 | 7/14/1998 | Arghavani et al. | | | |
| | | 5,811,347 | 9/22/1998 | Gardner et al. | | | |
| | | 6,118,168 | 9/12/2000 | Moon et al. | | | |
| | | 6,156,620 | 12/5/2000 | Puchner et al. | | | |
| | | 6,261,925 B1 | 7/17/2001 | Arghavani et al. | | | |
| | | 6,436,790 B2 | 8/20/2002 | Ito | | | |
| | | 6,479,367 B2 | 11/12/2002 | Park | | | |
| | | 6,498,383 B2 | 12/24/2002 | Beyer et al. | | | |
| | | US2003/0015736 A1 | 1/23/2003 | Beyer et al. | | | |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--|-----------------|------------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|----|
| | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION | |
| | | | | | | | YES | NO |
| | | 1-283859 | 11/15/1989 | JAPAN | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |

| OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) | | |
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* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.